

Application of: Bishop, William M.  
Serial No.: 10/709,153  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

### **REMARKS**

As mentioned on page 6 of the present patent application, prior art patent No. 5,511,905 deals with compensated salt caverns. One purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to make it clear that the present application deals with uncompensated salt caverns. The differences between compensated and uncompensated salt caverns are pointed out on page 5 of the present application beginning with paragraph 12. We would be happy to discuss these differences with the Examiner, if this is desired.

New claims 14-62 have been added to cover the use of LNG tanks to receive the LNG after it has been offloaded from the transport ship. The use of LNG tanks, such as those used in a conventional LNG receiving terminal are discussed on page 38 of the present patent application at paragraph 109. No new matter added in claims 14-62.

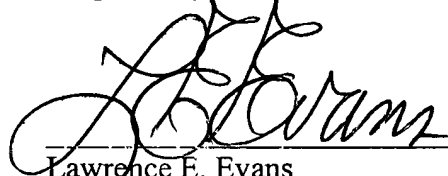
Application of: Bishop, William M.  
Serial No.: 10/709,153  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/30/04

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence E. Evans  
Reg. No. 29,531  
Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin LLP  
720 Olive Street, 24th Floor  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101  
(314) 345-6000

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT